

Message Text

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21

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 AID-05

EB-07 CIEP-01 TRSE-00 STR-01 OMB-01 CEA-01 COME-00

LAB-01 SIL-01 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 /065 W

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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6118

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E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: ELAB, JA

SUBJECT: TRANSPORT STRIKES AND SETTLEMENTS

REF: TOKYO 14869 AND PREVIOUS

1. STRIKES SCHEDULED NOVEMBER 19, AS REPORTED IN REFTEL, WERE CALLED TYING UP LOCAL AND SOME LONG DISTANCE TRANSPORT SERVICE. HOWEVER PRIVATE RAILWAY WORKERS(SHITESTSUSOREN) SETTLED AT 1430 FOR MODEST INCREASE IN YEAR-END BONUS. TOTAL BONUS WILL AMOUNT TO 2.525 MONTH'S BASIC PAY, A BOOST OF ONLY 5 PERCENT OVER AMOUNT PAID IN 1973. (THEIR ORIGINAL DEMAND: A 62 PERCENT INCREASE.)

2. LOCOMOTIVE ENGINEERS (DORO) STRUCK AS PLANNED UNTIL NOON. SHORTLY AFTER PRIVATE RR SETTLEMENT, JNR'S BIG UNION, KOKURO, CALLED OFF ITS STRIKE OF SHINKANSEN (BULLET TRAIN) ON GROUNDS NEGOTIATIONS WITH GOJ WERE SHOWING PROGRESS. IT WILL BE SOME HOURS, HOWEVER, BEFORE SERVICE RETURNS TO NORMAL.

3. COMMENT. SETTLEMENT OF PRIV RR'S LEAVES SOHYO'S AUTUMN STRUGGLE LARGELY IN HANDS OF PUBLIC SECTOR UNIONS. SO FAR GOJ HAS REMAINED FIRM THAT IT COULD NOT CONSIDER INCREASES IN PAY REQUIRING SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGETARY APPROPRIATIONS. SOHYO

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THUS MUST DECIDE WHETHER TO MOUNT MASSIVE STRUGGLE NEXT MONTH

OR ACCEPT MODEST YEAR-END BONUS INCREASE LIKE SHITETSUSOREN'S
AND SAVE ITS STRENGTH FOR THE 1975 SPRING WAGE OFFENSIVE--WHEN
THE ECONOMIC SITUATION MAY BE MORE FAVORABLE THAN AT PRESENT.
HODGSON

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